#### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re:

H. Thorp et al.

Serial No.:

To Be Assigned

Filed:

Concurrently Herewith

For:

ELECTROCHEMICAL DETECTION OF NUCLEIC ACID HYBRIDIZATION

November 6, 2001

BOX PATENT APPLICATION Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

### PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

# In the specification:

Page 1, after the title, please insert: "This application is a divisional of pending application Serial No. 09/603,217 filed June 26, 2000, which is in turn a divisional application of Serial No. 09/179, 665, filed October 27, 1998, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,132,971, which is in turn a divisional application of Serial No. 08/667,338, filed June 20, 1996, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,871,918, which is in turn a Continuation-In-Part of and claims priority from provisional application Serial No. 60/016,265, filed April 19, 1996 and which claims priority from application Serial No. 08/495,817, filed June 27, 1995 (converted to provisional application Serial No. 60/060,949, filed June 27, 1995), the disclosures of all of which are incorporated by reference herein in their entirety.

# In the claims:

Please cancel claims 1-30, 40-137, 145-147, and 150-151, without prejudice or disclaimer.

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### REMARKS

It is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for substantive examination, which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth D. Sibley

Registration No. 31

20792

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING** 

"Express Mail" mailing label number EL920741385US Date of Deposit: November 6, 2001

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Box Patent Application, Commissioner of Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Vickie Diane Prior

Date of Signature: November 6, 2001